



# RAID OF THE **MONGOLS**

The History of the Tartar Invasion

Taught by  
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# Sessions Timetable

<b>SATURDAY</b>	
8.30 am – 9.40 am	Session 1
Break 20 mins	
10.00 am – 11.00 am	Session 2
Break 15 mins	
11.15 am – 12.15 pm	Session 3
Break 15 mins	
12.30 pm – 13.15 pm	Session 4
BREAK FOR DHUHR, LUNCH & ASAR 13.15pm – 2.45pm	
2.45 pm – 4.00 pm	Session 5
Break 20 mins & Magrib	
4.20 pm – 5.20 pm	Session 6
Break 15 mins	
5.35 pm – 7.00 pm	Session 7

<b>SUNDAY</b>	
8.30 am – 9.40 am	Session 8
Break 20 mins	
10.00 am – 11.00 am	Session 9
Break 15 mins	
11.15 am – 12.15 pm	Session 10
Break 15 mins	
12.30 pm – 13.15 pm	Session 11
BREAK FOR DHUHR, LUNCH & ASAR 1.15pm – 2.45pm	
2.45 pm – 4.00 pm	Session 12
Break 20 mins & Magrib	
4.20 pm – 5.20 pm	Session 13
Break 15 mins	
5.35 pm – 7.00 pm	Conclusion

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## Course Objectives

1. Giving hope! Without hope there will be no action or application. Some people think that we are in the worst period ever therefore, they don't want to work, cooperate with others and they are waiting for a miracle to happen! This course will show them that Muslim Ummah went through a harder time and survived!
2. Putting History in perspective: There are current developments taking place in the Muslim world that are similar, can any parallels be drawn?
3. Awareness. Some Muslims don't know their history. Any Ummah does not know its history is a weak Ummah. There were bright examples of heroism and bravery in the time of weakness of this Ummah. We want Muslims to become resilient by following its role models.
4. Where to go from here? Many Muslims know their history but they don't know what to do with the knowledge they have and where to go from here? This course will give work plan and action items for people to follow to better themselves.

## Introduction

<b>History is history</b>	Some people would consider that talking about past history is a waste of time: “history is history; it’s in the past now [i.e. irrelevant]!” is their attitude.
<b>One-third of Qur’an is stories</b>	<p>When we look at the Qur’an we find that one third of it is stories.</p> <p>History! A lot of history:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• history of righteous people;</li> <li>• history of prophets and those who followed them;</li> <li>• history of those who denied Allah (ﷻ) signs and disbelieved in Him (ﷻ),</li> <li>• His messengers and their message.</li> </ul> <p>The Qur’an as a book is the exposition of a way of life, and includes many ayat that also inform every Muslim of how to receive those stories:</p> <p>﴿ فَأَقْصِصْ الْقَصَصَ لَعَلَّهُمْ يَتَفَكَّرُونَ ﴾</p> <p>“Tell the tales that they may reflect” [al-A’raf, 7:176]</p> <p>﴿ لَقَدْ كَانَ فِي قَصَصِهِمْ عِبْرَةٌ لِأُولَى الْأَلْبَابِ ﴾</p> <p>“There is in their stories a lesson for those who [aspire to] understand” [Yusuf 12:111]</p>

↓ Stories in the Qur’an - is Allah (ﷻ) way of guiding people and teaching them.

<b>When we study history we have to:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take the story and history in context;</li> <li>• Reflect on the story;</li> <li>• Look at its causes, effects and consequences.</li> </ul>
<b>Purpose of studying history:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NOT to depress people; nor to “cry over spilled milk”; nor to stir people’s emotions.</li> <li>• It is an invitation to learn and benefit from what happened in the past so that we can avoid repeating mistakes and instead correct ourselves.</li> <li>• Some people have deliberately falsified the history of Islam, and therefore it is our duty to show the truth by studying it and teaching it to people.</li> </ul>

## Who are the Tartars?

<b>State of the Tartars appeared:</b>	circa 603 H. In Mongolia, north of China
<b>The name Tartars:</b>	The tribes that lived in northern China in the Gobi desert are given the name Tartars, and from them came other tribes such as the Mongol, Turks and others.
<b>Their first leader:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jenkiz Khan, which means the “king of world kings”, or “the strong”, based on the Mongolian translation.</li> <li>He was a butcher, A ruthless military leader. His leadership skills resulted in his having the ability to gather people around him.</li> <li>He started expanding gradually into the surrounding areas. Shortly, his kingdom extended from Korea in the east to the borders of the state of Khawarizm in the west, and from the valleys of Siberia in the north to the China Sea in the south. (This area includes what are now known as China, Mongolia, Vietnam, Thailand, Korea, Nepal and Bhutan.)</li> </ul>
<b>The Tartars had a unique religion</b>	It was a mixture of many religions. Jenkiz Khan gathered some of Islam, Christianity, Buddhism together and produced a book called “Al Yasaq”.

**L** Jenkiz Khan's personal name was Timojin.

## The wars of the Tartars

### **The Tartars and their wars had distinct characteristics:**

- They were very organized;
- They achieved swift dominance;
- They involved and affected large numbers of people;
- Their victories lasted;
- They were executed by a strong leadership;
- They were ruthless: “news of the Tartars: [it is] as if they meant to destroy the world and distinct [distribute their] the genes, not for power or wealth”.
- They rejected other cultures, languages and the like;
- They never kept their word.





## The world at that time

<b>The Abbasid caliphate:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Was a very old regime. It had started after the fall of the Umayyads in 132H. in the seventh century, which was very weak, ruling only Iraq; its capital was Baghdad.</li> <li>• Around Iraq were many states that were in effect independent of the Abbasid state.</li> <li>• Caliphs were concerned only about collecting money, keeping themselves over the throne as long as possible and delivering kingship to their offspring if possible. They were consumed in their lusts and desires, drinking and music.</li> </ul>
<b>Damascus, Egypt, Hijaz and Yemen:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During that time these countries were under the ruling of the family of Ayub. They were the grand sons of Salahuddin al-Ayubi but they were not like him. They fought over the throne and divided the Ayubi state into many states. Homs separated from Aleppo, Palestine was separated from Jordan, Egypt was alone.</li> <li>• Al-Andalus: it was under the ruling of the state of the "Muwahidoun".</li> <li>• The state of Khawarizm was a very big state from western China to Iran, but it was in conflict with the Abbasid caliphate.</li> <li>• India: was under the ruling of "Ghuris" and there were wars between them and the state of Khawarizm.</li> <li>• Iran: part of it was following the state of Khawarizm and part of it was under the ruling of the Ismailis.</li> <li>• Turkey: under the ruling of Salagiqah. It was a weak state, although it was adjacent to the Byzantine state.</li> </ul>



The Abbasid state was only the image of a caliphate: a symbol.

<p><b>There were two main forces:</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Muslims, who were as described above.</li> <li>2. Crusaders: were also divided into many kingdoms, but all of them were at war with the Muslims.</li> </ol> <p>Christians of western Europe: France, England and Germany were organizing crusades constantly. The Christians of Spain and Portugal were also at war with Muslims in Andalus.</p>
<p><b>In addition there was:</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Byzantine: it was a large kingdom but weak.</li> <li>b. Kurj: in the state of what is Georgia in our time.</li> <li>c. Armenia: North of Persia and west of Anatolia</li> <li>d. Crusader states in Palestine, Lebanon and Turkey: occupying Muslim lands since 491 H.</li> </ol>
<p><b>At the beginning of the seventh century...</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conspiracies and plots were common</li> <li>• Wars among Muslims were normal.</li> <li>• Sins have been committed</li> <li>• It was normal to hear that so-and-so has oppressed so-and-so, so-and-so has killed so-and-so as if none of them were human.</li> </ul> <p>But a new force was appearing, which quickly became the dominant force by the first half of the seventh century. That was the force of Tartars.</p>



muslim world at 7th century

## New developments

<b>The Crusaders</b>	<p>A delegation was sent from Europe to Mongolia (a distance of over 11,000 kilometres), encouraging them to invade Muslim lands, topple the Abbasi dynasty and occupy Baghdad, which was the jewel of the Muslim world at that time.</p> <p>The Crusaders pledged to help the Tartars in their quest to invade the Muslim world and the Tartars were encouraged.</p>
<b>The Tartars</b>	<p>They indeed decided to invade the Muslim lands, although the Tartars were not in agreement with the Crusaders and there were to be several wars among them later.</p> <p>But whenever the enemies of Islam fight Muslims the enemies become united.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For instance, the Jews helped the polytheists of Makkah to fight the Prophet (ﷺ) despite the major difference in belief.</li> <li>• Persians collaborated with Romans to fight Muslims despite the fact that they themselves were each others' enemies.</li> <li>• The British Empire collaborated with the Jews to abolish the Ottoman Empire, occupy Palestine and implant Israel in the blessed land, despite the fact that between Jews and Christians there is much animosity.</li> <li>• Likewise Russians and Americans are now in agreement to fight "terrorism" while America ignores the massacres in Chechnya committed by Russians and Russians ignore the war being waged by America in Iraq and Afghanistan.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Jenkiz Khan</b></p>	<p>He thought about the best way to destroy the Abbasids and decided that it would be good for him to be based in the area of Afghanistan and Uzbekistan because the distance between China and Iraq is huge and there would have to be permanent military bases for reinforcement within a short distance.</p> <p>Also, the area that is known as Quqaz is rich in natural resources and has lots of treasures.</p> <p>In addition to that, he could not fight some Muslims while there were other Muslims threatening him from behind.</p> <p>All these factors made him decide to wage consecutive wars with the eastern states of Muslims. That was known as the region of Khawarizm, including Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Pakistan and parts of Iran. The capital was Organdah, which is now in Turkmenistan.</p>
	<p>Jenkiz Khan had an agreement with the king of Khawarizm, which included mutual agreement on peaceful coexistence, yet Jenkiz Khan didn't respect his agreements.</p> <p>The point of that agreement was to gain time until the matter is settled for him in Asia. Once that happened he decided to invade the Muslim lands after all.</p>
	<p>Allah (ﷻ) says:</p> <p>﴿أَوْكُلَّمَا عَاهَدُوا عَهْدًا نَبَذَهُ فَرِيقٌ مِّنْهُمْ بَلْ أَكْثَرُهُمْ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ﴾</p> <p>“Is it not (the case) that every time they make a covenant, some party among them throw it aside? Nay! the truth is most of them believe not”</p> <p>[al-Baqarah, 2:100]</p>



This is usually the sunnah of the people of falsehood.



	<p>However, even Jenkiz Khan wanted a legitimate cause to go to war. He wanted to claim that the covenant had been breached and the agreements no longer valid.</p> <p>Then a surprising thing happened which made Jenkiz Khan hasten his plan to invade the Muslim land. A group of Mongol merchants were killed in Khawarizm, and that was considered sufficient reason to go to war.</p>
	<p>Why were the Mongol merchants killed?</p> <p>There is more than one possible reason, depending on who the perpetrators were.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. They were spies.</li> <li>2. It was a response to the continuous violation of agreements by the Tartars.</li> <li>3. It was done by the Tartars themselves to wage the war.</li> </ol>
	<p>Jenkiz Khan sent a letter to the shah of Khawarizm, demanding that he hand over the killers to be punished.</p> <p>The Khawarizm Shah refused and considered that interference in his sovereign power. But he promised that an investigation would take place and that the criminals would be punished according to Islamic law.</p> <p>This was not acceptable to Jenkiz Khan, and he only wanted an excuse to enact the plan he had already made, so this was the beginning of the tragedy.</p>



This is the proper procedure anywhere in the world

## The Tartar hurricane began – First attack 616H (1219AD)

<b>A fierce battle between Jenkiz Khan and Muhammad Khawarizm Shah.</b>	<p>It lasted for four days east of the river Sardaria in Kazakhstan.</p> <p>Many people were killed. 20,000 Muslims were killed, and many more of the Tartars.</p> <p>However, Muhammad ibn Khawarizm Shah withdrew after he saw that his enemies numbers were endless. He went to strengthen his largest cities, especially the capital Organdah.</p> <p>Muhammad Khawarizm Shah was not in agreement with the Abbasids nor was he with Turks or Ghuries. So he stood alone before the Tartars' onslaught.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">﴿ وَلَا تَنَزَعُوا فَنَفْسُكُمُوتَ وَتَذْهَبَ رِجَاكُمُ ﴾</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“and do not dispute and [thus] lose courage and [then] your strength would depart” [al-Anfal, 8:46]</p>
<b>Muhammad ibn Khawarizm Shah</b>	<p>He busied himself with protecting his capital at the expense of other, smaller cities.</p> <p>He was concerned about his own throne and family at the expense of his subjects.</p>



This was not only a strategic mistake but also an ethical one!



<b>Jenkiz Khan</b>	<p>He regrouped his army again and quickly penetrated the entire region of Kazakhstan till he reached Bukhara (in Uzbekistan).</p> <p>Bukhara was besieged. Its people were divided about whether they open the city to Jenkiz Khan or fight. Some people said they should save themselves from bloodshed and open the city (i.e. surrender). Others insisted on fighting and took shelter in the castle of the city.</p> <p>When the city was opened Jenkiz Khan gave its people amnesty at first. Then he besieged the castle for 10 days until it was attacked and all of the people killed. Bukhara now without mujahideen to defend it.</p> <p>He asked about the treasures of the city. He took everything, and then allowed his soldiers to do whatever they would in the city.</p>
<b>Ibn-Kathir rahimahullah wrote:</b>	<p>“They killed [so] many people that only Allah knows their number! They enslaved women and children. They fornicated with women in the presence of their families. Of the Muslims, those who had fought were killed; and some who were captured were tortured badly. Then they burnt homes, masjids and schools and Bukhara fell into ruins.”</p>
<b>This all in year 616H</b>	<p>About six centuries before, the companions (radiy-Allahu anhum) of Allah’s Messenger (ﷺ) had asked him (ﷺ), “Will we be destroyed though we have good people?” He (ﷺ) had replied, “Yes, if evil is outspread.” <i>narrated from Zainab the wife of the Prophet (ﷺ) in Sahib Al Bukhari</i></p>

📌 Their crimes and atrocities were beyond imagination.

## Year 617 H (1220 AD)

<b>Ibn al-Athir rahimahullah says:</b>	<p>“I have been sceptical about mentioning what happened and I still am because of the horrible things that took place. Who would document the death of the Muslims? I wish my mother had not given birth to me. I wish I had died long time before this.</p> <p>“Then I realized that not writing it would benefit no one. So I decided to write.</p> <p>“So I say: This mentions the greatest tragedy that has no match. If one would say since Allah created Adam till now there has been no tragedy like it he would be telling the truth for we have not heard something like that. The closest we heard is what Bukhtanassar did with the children of Israel in the sacred house “Jerusalem”, and what is the sacred house compared to what those cursed people have done? For every city is bigger than it. And how much are the children of Israel compared to what they have killed? The people of each city are more than the children of Israel that were killed.</p> <p>“Perhaps, people won’t see a tragedy like it till the day of judgment except for Yajouj and Majouj and the Dajjal, who would keep his followers while those left no one.”</p> <p>“They have killed men, women, opened up the bellies of pregnant women and killed fetuses.”</p>
<b>After Bukhara, they moved to Samarqand, which is in Uzbekistan now.</b>	<p>They took many captives, but anyone who was unable to carry on would be killed. Why did they keep some of the captives?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. They used to give every 10 a flag so the number of Tartars would seem greater and onlookers would think that the entire crowd is a Tartar.</li> <li>2. They forced the captives to fight the Muslims; else they would be killed.</li> <li>3. Human shields.</li> <li>4. Evidence to show people what their end would be if they resisted</li> <li>5. For prisoner-exchange if anything went wrong.</li> </ol>

<p><b>In Samarqand there was 50 thousand soldiers and many civilians.</b></p>	<p>The military refused to defend the city because they were terrified. So 70,000 civilians volunteered to defend the city. Once that happened, the Tartars withdrew gradually to draw Muslims out, and gradually they were all killed</p> <p>Then the Tartars came back to the city. The military decided to give Samarqand up.</p> <p>The Tartars asked for their weapons and money. Once they had got that, all of them were killed: 50,000 in one day.</p> <p>They did the same in Samarqand as they did in Bukhara</p>
<p><b>Jenkiz Khan resided in Samarqand.</b></p>	<p>20,000 Tartars were dispatched to get the head of the state. Muhammad ibn Khawarizm. Only 20,000!</p> <p>They went to Urgandah, on the western river of Amudaria. The Muslims held on because they had the river between them and the Tartars, and the Tartars had no ships. But the Tartars made large wooden baskets with leather around them so that water would not leak in, and put all their weapons in. Then they made their horses swim and held on to the tails of the horses, in this manner succeeding in crossing the river.</p>
<p><b>Where were the spies?</b></p>	<p>Khawarizm Shah had left with a few members of his family. The soldiers were divided.</p> <p>The Tartars were on a mission. Khawarizm Shah left for Mazendran, so they left Neisabour. He left Mazendran to al-Rai. They followed him; he went back to Mazendran and then Taberstan. From there he ran to a castle on an island in the sea. He was happy with that as long as he was alive. A few days later he died.</p>

Were there not Muslims in other countries?

Nobody came to their rescue.



<b>What did Ibn al-Athir say about Muhammad ibn Khawarizm?</b>	<p>“He ruled for 21 years and few months. The entire world obeyed him. He ruled from Iraq to Turkistan to Ghaznah. He was virtuous, knowledgeable of fiqh and hadith. Honouring the people of knowledge. But he killed the rulers of countries so when he was defeated by tatars no one helped him. Compare that to what the Prophet (ﷺ) did.”</p>
<b>What did the 20,000 soldiers do?</b>	<p>They were over 650 kilometres away. They returned to Mazendran. It was one of the strongest cities. When Muslims had opened these lands at the time of Omar. They had been unable to open Mazendran.</p> <p>Then they moved to Arrai. In their way, they found the mother of Muhammad ibn Khawarizm and his family with a lot of treasure. They seized all that and sent it to Jenkiz Khan.</p> <p>They reached Arrai and did the same thing. Then they reached Quzwin. They killed 40,000 people there. Then they moved to Azarbaijan. They came across Tabriz. The ruler of Tabriz wanted an agreement; he was drunk all the time.</p>
<b>Jenkiz Khan sent three groups of his army to the regions of Khurasan and Khawarizm.</b>	<p>Before conquering those regions he decided to terrify the people so that occupation would be easy.</p> <p>One group went to Firghanah (in Uzbekistan), about 500 km east of Samarqand. Another group went to Tirmith in Turkmenistan, 100 km south of Samarqand. The third group went to the castle of Kulaba on the river of Jayhun.</p> <p>Fear was spread in the hearts of Muslims. Muslims started believing that Tartars are blood suckers who cannot be defeated.</p> <p>The city of Balkh, in the north of Afghanistan asked for asylum; for the first time the tartars did gave asylum.</p> <p>Later, Jenkiz Khan commanded the people of Balkh to help him invade the city of Maru. Maru (now in Turkmenistan) was about 250 km from Balkh. Outside Maru there were 200,000 Muslims preparing for the battle. The Tartars killed most of the army</p>



It was opened over 80 years later at the time of Sulaiman ibn Abdil-Malik.

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<b>Ibn al-Athir wrote:</b>	“When Tartars arrived they met and fought, Muslims were patient but the Tartars could not be defeated.”
<b>There were over 700,000 Muslims in Maru.</b>	<p>For four days the city held out and did not surrender. On the 5th day the Tartars told the people that they have to open the gates of the city or be killed. So the people agreed to open the city and its leader went to meet with Jenkiz Khan. The leader was received well by Jenkiz Khan’s son but he told him: “Bring out all deputies to meet with us and see who could be fit to rule.” Once they all came they were handcuffed and imprisoned. Then the leader was commanded to write two lists: one of the big business people; another list of the skilled people (i.e. artisans, craftsmen, etc.).</p> <p>Then all people of Maru had to come out of the city.</p> <p>Jenkiz Khan’s son sat on his gold chair in front of people and issued the following commands:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To bring the leader with all his deputies and to be killed in front of people;</li> <li>2. To send all skilled people to aMgnolia to benefit from them;</li> <li>3. All business people to be tortured until they reveal all their assets;</li> <li>4. To search all houses and places in the city for three days;</li> <li>5. To kill all the people of Maru.</li> </ol>
<b>Ibn al-Athir wrote:</b>	“They were close to 700,000 killed in Maru”.
<b>After Maru they went to Neisabour.</b>	<p>For five days it was besieged but the news of Maru came to them so the city was occupied easily. At that time some soldiers told the son of Jenkiz Khan that some people from Marw were not indeed dead! They were hit by swords but they escaped death. So this time he instructed that all men be killed and beheaded, and all the women to be enslaved. They remained there for fifteen days this time.</p>

<p><b>Then they moved to Harat.</b></p>	<p>The same thing happened. But the prince of that city was able to run away to Ghaznah, south of Harat.</p> <p>When Harat fell, the entire region of Khurasan was occupied. All that happened in one year.</p>
<p><b>The region of Khawarizm:</b></p>	<p>Jenkiz khan sent the largest army to the city of Khawarizm. For five months they were unable to conquer the city. Reinforcements were sent but the city was not captured. Then eventually the Tartars were able to penetrate through a small hole in the wall so finally they entered the city and fought its people. At the beginning the battle was even but soon the Tartars took the lead and started killing everyone. While they were doing this, they broke the dam of the river that supplied the city with water and kept the river from flooding. The city was flooded entirely. Whoever was not killed by the Tartars was drowned. The entire city was wiped out.</p>
<p><b>The southern region of Khawarizm</b></p>	<p>This was under the command of Jalaluddin ibn Muhammad ibn Khawarizm. His capital was Ghaznah, about 150 km south of Kabul.</p> <p>Jenkiz Khan sent a huge army to Ghaznah. Jalaluddin was aware of the developments that were taking place in the north. He was the heir of the throne of his father. He sought help from people and got support from one of the Turkish leaders, Saifuddin Buhraq, with 30,000 soldiers following him. There were also 60,000 soldiers from the destroyed cities and the escaped prince Malik Khan.</p> <p>Jalaluddin prepared himself and chose a battle ground in the area of Balq. For three days there was fighting. The Tartars were defeated, many were killed and the rest ran away to Jenkiz Khan.</p> <p>Jalaluddin sent to Jenkiz Khan, inviting him to fight again. They met in Kabul. Muslims were victorious again and rescued a lot of Muslim captives from the Tartars.</p> <p>But, .....</p>

↓ Khawarizm was the center of the Islamic state there.

↓ Ibn al-Athir says:  
"We never heard of this except what happened to the people of Nuh."

## Spoils of War: Dunya

Muslims disputed over the division of the spoils of war.

Saifuddin Buhraq and Malik Khan demanded their share. Voices were loud, then swords were involved. The brother of Saifuddin Buhraq was killed, which led to the withdrawal of 30,000 soldiers. All that happened while Tartars were still at the Muslims' door.

Jenkiz Khan wanted to avenge the two losses so he came himself this time. He was encouraged to see the strongest group of the army separated so that Jalulddin couldn't fight him now.

Jalaluddin ran away from Jenkiz Khan. He crossed the territory now known as Pakistan and passed the river Sind; he had no ties with the Indians but they were better than the Tartars. He reached the river but there were no...

A fierce battle took place. All previous battles were a joke compared to this battle. They fought for three days. Many were killed from both sides; among them was Malik Khan. Then the ships came, so Jalaluddin ran away like his father.

Jenkiz Khan was looking for a victory after two defeats. He started killing everyone in all the cities. The people of Ghaznah were all killed. A dream was coming true: the occupation of Afghanistan. Afghanistan is a very difficult country to occupy; indeed almost impossible, because it is in the heart of Asia.

That concludes the year 617 H, all of this took place in just one year.



## Year 618 H (1221 AD)

<b>Tartars entered the city of Maraghah in Azerbaijan.</b>	<p>The leader of that city was a woman.</p> <p>Muslim captives were the fighters on behalf of the Tartars.</p> <p>On the 4th of Safar 618H Tartars entered Maraghah.</p>
<b>Ibn al-Athir says:</b>	<p>“a woman of the Tartars would enter the house and kill a group of its people, men, women and children.”</p> <p>“Someone told me that a man from the Tartar came across 100 Muslims and he killed them one by one.”</p>
<b>The city of Arbil:</b>	<p>This is a neighbouring city to al-Musil. When the caliph in Baghdad heard about this he was scared and he feared that the Tartars might change course and come to Baghdad, so he wanted to prepare the army. “The army of the Abbasids.”</p> <p>The caliph was an-Nasir li-Ddeenillah: he declared enlistment and gathered 800 soldiers.</p> <p>The leader of the army could not fight with that insignificant number. He withdrew from the Tartars but the Tartars thought this was a trick so they avoided the confrontation.</p>
<b>Tartars went to Tabriz.</b>	<p>Its leader was Uzbek ibn al Bahlawan. But they found someone else: Shamsuddin Attaghray, who encouraged the people to fight.</p> <p>The Tartars heard of this and decided not to enter Tabriz. They feared jihad. Muslims didn't merely fight yet; they just wanted to do jihad.</p> <p>“And prepare against them whatever you are able of power and of steeds of war, by which you may terrify the enemy of Allah and your enemy, and others besides them whom you do not know [but] whom Allah knows. And whatever you spend in the cause of Allah will be fully repaid to you, and you will not be wronged.” <i>Al-Anfal, 8:60</i></p>
<b>The same thing happened with another city: Kingah.</b>	<p>The Tartars went instead to Daghistan and Chechnya.</p> <p>Tartars entered Russia and reached the river Volga. They were Christians.</p>

## Year 619 H (1222 AD)

**There was no expansion**

But rather

- Kazakhstan
- Tajikistan
- Turkmenistan
- Uzbekistan
- Pakistan (except Karman)
- Afghanistan
- Most of Iran
- Azerbaijan
- Armenia
- Georgia

That's within two years.



## Year 620 H (1223 AD)

<b>Jenkiz Khan strengthened his kingship.</b>	In this entire year there were a few important incidents:
	1. A fierce battle between the Tartars and a group of Russians (bryulgars) led to a defeat of the Tartars that caused them to lose all their occupied land in Georgia, Armenia, Chechnya, Azerbaijan, northern Iran and Russia.. Instead, one of the Muslim leaders attacked the Kurj in Georgia.
	2. As a result of the defeat of the Tartars a son of Muhammad ibn Khawarizm appeared as a leader and controlled most northern regions of Iran: Karman, Asbahan. He was now directly facing the Tartars, standing between them and the Abbasids. It was expected that the caliph would help him but that didn't happen. The caliph was unjust. He imposed many taxes on his people. The caliph corresponded with the uncle of Ghiyathuddin. His name was Ighan Taici. They fought each other to control Iran. Ighan Taici was defeated after great losses on both sides.
	3. A strange incident occurred when the Kurj liberated themselves from the Tartars: a woman was ruling them. That woman was single. She wanted to marry but she found no one fit for her. Mughithuddin ibn Turl shah, the ruler of Salajiqah, then heard of this matter and offered his son to marry her. She refused because he was a Muslim. His father told her that his son would become Christian and marry her. She agreed and they were married.
	4. Natural disasters.



This was a golden chance for Muslims to seize the opportunity and attack the Tartars, but they missed it.



Isn't this strange that Muslims were fighting each other while the enemy was next door?

How about now?

## Year 621 H (1224 AD)

<p><b>The ruler of south west Persia "Ghiyathuddin"</b></p>	<p>He attempted to strengthen his kingship but a fight emerged between him and another ruler his name, "Saaduddin ibn Dakla". After a year's long fighting they agreed to divide the country.</p> <p>While they were busy fighting each other, 3,000 Tartar soldiers attacked the city "Arrai" and invaded it, then they moved to the city "Sawa" and did the same; then they went to "Qum", Qashan and Hamadan.</p> <p>Only 3,000 soldiers did all that.</p>
<p><b>Another incident took place.</b></p>	<p>Ibn Kathir (rahimahullah) wrote about it:</p> <p>In year 621: rain was little, and came only few times that was insufficient for agriculture so the harvest was not enough at all. Then grasshoppers came in large numbers so prices were very high in Iraq, Mawsil, Diar Bakr and other cities."</p>

## Year 622 H (1225 AD)

<b>The return of Jalaluddin.</b>	<p>After five years of being a refugee. He noticed that Tartars are not focusing on Muslims now as they used before because of internal affairs in Mongolia, so he wanted to reclaim his kingship.</p> <p>He entered Iran. There were two people: his brother and another person. He allied with Sa'dduin ibn Dakla against his brother. He reached west Iran. He remembered the disputes between him and the Abbasids, so he decided to invade Iraq. He besieged Basrah but couldn't conquer it. He went to Baghdad. The caliph sent to the Tartars asking them to help him against Jalaluddin.</p> <p>The Tartars did not come and Jalaluddin failed to capture Baghdad. All his wars were against Muslims.</p> <p>Jalaluddin ruled from south Iran to the sea of Qazween.</p>
<b>At the end of 622H</b>	<p>The caliph passed away after 47 years of rule.</p> <p>His son at-Tahir Bi-Amrillah became the caliph. He was unlike his father.</p> <p>If it were to be said of someone that after Umar ibn Abdil-Aziz there was no one better than him he would be that person of whom this was said.</p> <p>He was an anomaly in that time.</p> <p>I'm afraid that he would not live long because our time and our people don't deserve him. He only ruled 9 months then he passed away.</p> <p>It took only 9 months to correct everything. Prices became cheap.</p> <p>Then after that al-Mustansir ruled.</p>
<b>In the year 624H</b>	<p>Jenkiz khan died at the age of 72.</p> <p>Things had calmed down relatively by the death of Jenkiz Khan.</p>
<b>In year 626H</b>	<p>Jerusalem was surrendered peacefully to the Crusaders.</p> <p>Princes in Shaam wanted the help of the Crusaders against the rulers of Egypt.</p>



Why was Jerusalem surrendered peacefully?

## Year 628H (1231 AD)

<p><b>There was a new Tartar attack on the Islamic territories after the relatively calm period.</b></p>	<p>This happened because there was a new ruler in Mongolia: Okitay.</p> <p>He had organized the matters of his state in the last 4 years.</p> <p>He took a decision that prolonged the age of the Abbasi dynasty. He decided to finish with the Abbasy dynasty, not to begin with it. He wanted to avoid agitating the Muslims in ash-Shaam, Egypt and other parts of the world. Also Baghdad was the largest city in the world so he didn't want to deal with that huge number of people in one go. Finally, Baghdad was one of the strongest cities at that time. A city that is 500 years old. But he continued to attack Muslim lands. He assigned a leader to take on that mission; his name was Shormajan.</p> <p>The first area he faced was the area of Jalaluddin. Jalaluddin ran away from him till he reached north Iraq. His army was dispersed. He had to move from one city to another until he met a peasant who asked him about his name; when the peasant realised who he was he killed him because his brother had been killed at the hands of Jalaluddin.</p> <p>The entire region of Iran was occupied in a very short time with the exception of the strip that was occupied by the Ismaielies.</p> <p>Shormajan continued to the region of Azerbaijan. Then he decided to give up the wars for five years.</p> <p>The interregnum lasted from 629 H until 634 H. In those 5 years not even one Muslim army attempted to attack him.</p>
<p><b>In the year 634H</b></p>	<p>Shormajan turned from west of the sea of Qazween to the north and was able to reclaim the regions of Armen5a, Georgia and Chechnya. He sent an army to continue the conquest.</p> <p>Another leader led the way in the north of the sea of Qazween. His name was Batu ibn ajy.</p>

<b>He attacked Russia in the year 635H.</b>	<p>Massacres were committed in Russia in the years 635 and 636H by Vladimir and Suthal. Then they moved to Moscow and within days it fell.</p> <p>The entire country was occupied in two years.</p> <p>It then took them two years to regroup.</p> <p>After two years they moved to Ukraine and occupied Kiev. They occupied the entire county in 638H.</p>
<b>In year 639H</b>	<p>One group of the army of Batu moved to Poland and destroyed most of the cities there. The Polish ruler sought help from Germany and Prince Henry came to his rescue, but they both were crushed.</p> <p>Batu in that year left part of his army in Ukraine and moved to Hungary, where he fought its army and crushed it.</p> <p>Baidar moved south and occupied Slovakia, then Croatia, and reached the Adriatic sea.</p> <p>At that moment half of east</p> <p>In the year 639H Okitay died, so Batu had to give up the invasions and go back to Qurraqorm to participate in the selection of a new khagan.</p> <p>A new leader emerged. His name was Guyuk the son of Ogedey, and he had a new strategy. He decided to stop all attacks and strengthen the presence of the Tartars in their already-occupied countries.</p>
<b>Although Tartars were a great threat to Europe, Christians allied with them despite everything they had done.</b>	<p>The Crusaders considered the Tartars a temporary enemy, while Islam and Muslims are the permanent enemy.</p> <p>A transformation in the creed of the Tartars started taking place. This was based on the marriage of some military leaders with Christian girls from Europe. This led to a huge change later in the nature of the Tartar attacks.</p> <p>The Crusaders also continued to attack Muslims. The threat of the Tartars was also still there in addition to the unjust rule of Muslims.</p>
<b>In the year 640H</b>	<p>The Abbasid caliph passed away and his son al-Musta'sim took over. He was the last caliph of Banu Abbas.</p>



For further information on the invasion of Europe: Mongols attacked between 1241-1242

## Years 639 H – 649 H (1232- 1242 AD)

<p><b>All military campaigns by Tartars stopped.</b></p>	<p>Guyuk ruled from 639 to 646. In these 7 years the Tartars entered no new land.</p> <p>Pope Innocent IV sent a delegation in 644 offering unity to fight Muslims. He expressed no concern about the Christians in Russia and eastern Europe.</p> <p>The pope also invited Guyuk to become Christian. This was considered very inappropriate. Guyuk demanded that all the kings of Europe come to him offering their obedience; only then would he consider the pope's request for unity. Kings of Europe refused that request and thus the delegation failed.</p> <p>The pope made another attempt with another leader, "Baiju", but he failed again because that leader had no authority to initiate such an agreement.</p> <p>Luis IX was preparing the 7th Crusade against Egypt. From Cyprus he sent a delegation to Mongolia but they found Guyuk dead. The widow of Guyuk was the ruler at that time because his three children were too young to rule.</p> <p>She apologized again because the country was in turmoil.</p>
<p><b>In the year 647H</b></p>	<p>Luis IX insisted on attacking Egypt and did so.</p>
<p><b>In the year 649H</b></p>	<p>The Tartars selected Mengku Khan as their new leader.</p> <p>For 10 years Muslims were not concerned about liberating the occupied lands.</p> <p>Historians mentioned nothing during that time, as if the situation was an accepted reality.</p> <p>Mengku khan had three brothers who helped him</p> <p>Areeq Buqa stayed with him.</p> <p>One brother was called Kubilai.</p> <p>The third brother was Hulago. He was in charge of the western region of Asia, "the area of Iraq"; his mission was: the destruction of the Abbasids.</p>



<b>Preparation for the destruction of Abbasid dynasty:</b>	<p>Hulago didn't rush the task though he was very strong and his opponent was weak.</p> <p>He prepared for five years:</p>
	<p>1. The infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. He prepared roads from China to Iraq to carry his huge army.</li> <li>b. He built bridges especially over rivers.</li> <li>c. He manufactured tools that would help him to besiege towns and destroy walls and castles.</li> <li>d. He cleared roads from animals so that the grass would be preserved for the animals of the army.</li> </ul>
	<p>2. The political preparation: an agreement was established between the Mongols and the king of Armenia, one Hethum.</p> <p>Then followed agreements with Muslim rulers. The prince of Musil.</p> <p>The grandson of Salahuddin Al Ayubi. an-Nasir Yusuf sent his son with a battalion to join Hulago in invading Iraq.</p> <p>Reaching out to the prime minister of the Abbasids. Muayed Addin ibn al-Alqami. He was the prime minister from 642H to 656H.</p>
	<p>3. The psychological war: terrorist attacks on the outskirts of Iraq. One caravan captured was worth 600,000 dinars.</p>
<b>Before the attack:</b>	<p>4. Media: exaggerating the abilities of the Tartars and dwarfing the abilities of Muslims.</p>
	<p>200,000 soldiers were in charge of besieging Baghdad.</p> <p>Calling a group of the Tartar army from Russia</p> <p>Sending out to the king of Armenia.</p> <p>Chinese archers</p>

<p><b>A problem arose on the way:</b></p>	<p>The Ismaili sect: They were eradicated in the year 655 H. Tartars had to avenge the killing of one of their leaders. It took them a year to end this problem fully.</p> <p>The war assembly:</p> <p>Hulago was stationed in Hamadan (450 km from Baghdad). He ordered his spies to monitor the Muslim princes.</p> <p>Hulago divided his army into three groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The heart: under the leadership of Hulago personally. Its task was to attack Baghdad from the east.</li> <li>• The second group was to attack Baghdad from the south.</li> <li>• The third group was to attack Baghdad from the northwest.</li> </ul> <p>This army was 1,000 kms away. Yet it penetrated Muslim land without any resistance.</p>
<p><b>The fall of Baghdad:</b></p>	<p>It had the benefit of 500 years of protection and reinforcement.</p> <p>But that city was led by a man unworthy of leadership.</p> <p>He was the 37th caliph, al Mustasim Billah.</p> <p>He was praised by historians. Ibn-Kathir says: "He was beautiful with a good heart, on the correct 'Aqeedah, following the school of thought of Ahlus-Sunnah".</p> <p>What school of thought of Ahlus-Sunnah did he really follow?</p> <p>He had been ruling for 16 years.</p> <p>So what was the situation in Baghdad?</p> <p>Singers and dancers:</p> <p>The public and their concern. There were 3 million in Baghdad at that time. The largest city in the world.</p>



Baghdad at that time was the strongest city on earth.

## The fall of Baghdad

<p><b>On the 12 Muharram 656H (January 1258 AD) the army of Tartars surrounded Baghdad.</b></p>	<p>The caliph was terrified. He had had no news of the army before. He asked for an urgent meeting with his cabinet.</p> <p>His prime minister suggested “peace talks”. Two of the ministers commanded jihad and insisted that this would be their only chance</p> <p>The caliph knew that his two ministers were right but this was a new concept for him.</p> <p>For the first time the caliph wants his army to be prepared to fight.</p> <p>A small group under the leadership of Mujahiduddin Aybak went outside to defend Baghdad but the moment he left, news came that the army of Beiju was coming from north. Aybak decided to face Beiju in Anbar to avoid the entrapment of Baghdad.</p> <p>The battle took place on 19 Muharram but it was unbalanced. The Muslim army was crushed.</p> <p>The caliph agreed to “peace talks”. He sent a delegation to negotiate with Hulago. The delegation consisted of two people only: the prime minister and the patriarch of Baghdad, a Shi’a and a Christian.</p>
<p><b>Terms of agreement:</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Muslims turn in the trouble-makers, i.e. the two ministers who had advocated jihad;</li> <li>2. The Muslims’ Iraqi fortresses be destroyed and all weapons and other military equipment be surrendered;</li> <li>3. Rule in Baghdad be under the supervision of the Tartars.</li> </ol>
<p><b>In return:</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The caliph would remain ruler;</li> <li>2. The daughter of Hulago would marry the son of the caliph;</li> <li>3. People of Baghdad would be safe.</li> </ol>

<p><b>The caliph had no idea what to do. These were tough conditions.</b></p>	<p>Hulago was short of time, because it was cold and the maintenance of the army required a lot of money, so he commenced the attack even before he received any answer from the caliph.</p> <p>The caliph was terrified.</p> <p>An arrow hit the neck of 'Arafah.</p> <p>From 1 Safar to 4 Safar Baghdad was under the Tartar attack.</p> <p>On 4 Safar the eastern walls were destroyed, and that caused the caliph to break down as well.</p> <p>The caliph was ready to go by himself to Hulago. Hulago demanded that all the ministers, with the scholars and business people, go to him. 700 in total went to Hulago.</p> <p>Before they reached Hulago the secret service allowed only 17 to enter. The rest were searched and kept away. All of them were killed.</p> <p>The caliph realized that everyone was killed but it was too late.</p>
<p><b>Hulago then issued these commands:</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Everyone in Baghdad to give up resistance and drop their weapons.</li> <li>2. The caliph to be handcuffed and taken back to Baghdad.</li> <li>3. The two children of the caliph, Ahmad and Abdurrahman, to be killed in front of him.</li> <li>4. The three sisters of the caliph to be imprisoned.</li> <li>5. Certain people to be summoned from Baghdad (their names were written by Ibn Al Alqami). The son of Imam Ibn al-Jawzi was among them.</li> </ol>
<p><b>The final command:</b></p>	<p>To allow the Tartar soldiers to do whatever they wanted in Baghdad.</p> <p>Muslims were being killed everywhere.</p> <p>The caliph was still alive, watching.</p> <p>He was kept to show the Tartars were the treasures of Baghdad were.</p>



Who was 'Arafah?

<b>Earlier, Hulago had told the caliph that he would not shed his blood.</b>	<p>The caliph was wrapped in a bag and he was killed by kicking.</p> <p>This was on 14 Safar after 10 days of killing.</p>
<b>Hulago instructed soldiers to keep killing Muslims</b>	<p>The soldiers did so for 40 consecutive days. One million Muslims were killed.</p> <p>Christians were not killed.</p> <p>The destruction of the library of Baghdad: books were thrown into the Tigris river. The Tartars apparently did not even consider the possibility of taking useful books to their country and benefiting from them.</p> <p>It was said that the Tartar horseman would cross the river over books.</p> <p>The destruction of the library of Cordoba 20 years ago 636H.</p> <p>40 days later, a true amnesty was given to all the Muslims.</p> <p>There were 1 million Muslims to be buried.</p> <p>Diseases were spread.</p>
<b>Another decision from Hulago:</b>	<p>The new ruler of the assembly was Muaid Addin Ibn al-Alqami: under the supervision of Tartars, of course.</p> <p>He was humiliated deliberately by the Tartar soldiers in order that he should be reminded always that he is a follower, not a ruler.</p> <p>After a few days he died in his house.</p> <p>His son became the next ruler. He also died in the same year, 656H.</p>
<b>Muslims around the world were shocked by the fall of Baghdad.</b>	<p>It was the largest city in the world, and the capital of the Islamic state.</p> <p>Muslims without a caliph are in deprivation.</p> <p>Many Muslims therefore believed that al-Mahdi is coming and that the end of the world was near.</p>



Why was amnesty given?

## Conquering ash-Sham

<p><b>After Baghdad:</b> <b>Hulago withdrew from Baghdad to Persia after 40 days.</b></p>	<p>Hulago remained in a castle called “Shaha” at the lake “Urmiah” (now in Iran), where he placed all the treasures he had looted from Baghdad.</p> <p>Muslim princes visited Hulago again to reassure him of their alliance and prove their obedience. They wanted to appear wise in front of their subjects; they claimed that they were working for their countries.</p> <p>Definitely they had people supporting them and giving them evidences from Quran and Sunnah.</p>
<p><b>One man stood tall in front of Hulago.</b></p>	<p>One man was a true leader. His name was “al-Kamel Muhammad al-Ayubi”. He was the prince of MiaFarqin, a small city in east Turkey near the lake Wan, but he ruled an area now in Iraq, Turkey and Syria. Hulago could not continue without crossing these areas.</p> <p>Hulago had to fight him. To begin with, he sent him a messenger commanding unconditional surrender. That messenger was a Christian priest from the Arab tribes.</p>
<p><b>Hulago sent his son with a large army to fight al-Kamel.</b></p>	<p>Al-Kamel kept his army together in one place, in the strongest place in his state. Ashmut went directly there after the prince of Musil opened his land to him.</p> <p>Miafarqin was now besieged. The date was Rajab 656H, 4 months after the destruction of Baghdad.</p>
<p><b>How did Muslim rulers and the Muslim public react?</b></p>	<p>Nothing.</p> <p>They had to respect the international agreements under the new international law.</p> <p>They should not be reckless like al-Kamel, who was leading his people to destruction.</p>

What did the prince do to the messenger?

<p><b>How come his relative Yusuf, the ruler of Damascus and Baghdad, forsook him?</b></p>	<p>They were both related to the great Salahuddin, who had passed away only 70 years ago, in 589H.</p> <p>But an-Nasir Yusuf refused to help him. He actually sent a letter with his son -- who had participated earlier in the fall of Baghdad -- requesting the help of the Tartars to fight Egypt.</p> <p>Hulago was very upset. How dare Yusuf send his son instead of coming himself?</p> <p>Hulago sent a threatening letter to an-Nasir Yusuf.</p> <p>An-Nasir Yusuf's heart fell in his feet when he read the letter. Then he declared jihad. An-Nasir Yusuf, who had corresponded with Luis IX, declares Jihad? Who sent his son to participate in the destruction of Baghdad declares Jihad? Who wanted Hulago to help him fighting Egypt declares Jihad.</p>
<p><b>An-Nasir Yusuf camped north of Damascus instead of camping in Aleppo.</b></p>	<p>He sought the help of Mughithuddin Omar, the prince of Kark, who didn't respond to him.</p> <p>He corresponded with Egypt, asking their help in fighting the Tartars.</p> <p>At that time, Hulago was regrouping himself in Hamadan.</p> <p>He sent lots of gifts to Christian rulers to persuade them help him and his son.</p> <p>He was looking for the total occupation of the region of Syria. There were two large cities there, Damascus and Aleppo. Targeting Aleppo was to be expected. Targeting Damascus would be a huge surprise and a big advantage to him, but to do that he would need to cross the desert.</p>

<b>The road to Aleppo:</b>	<p>Hulago crossed two rivers in his way to Aleppo. He occupied Nusaibin, Harran, Arrah and Ilbeira and descended on Aleppo from the north.</p> <p>It took him 1 year to reach Aleppo. He arrived there in Muharram 658H.</p>
<b>The leader of the opposition in Aleppo</b>	<p>Toran Shah, the uncle of Yusuf. He was unlike his nephew.</p> <p>No help was sent to Aleppo from Damascus.</p> <p>While Aleppo was besieged, bad news came to the Muslims. Miafarqin had fallen after 18 months of siege.</p>
<b>Ashmut wanted to make it a lesson for every country that thought of resistance.</b>	<p>Everyone was killed except one man: the prince himself; al-Kamil. He was sent to Hulago so he himself could deal with him.</p> <p>Al Kamil was skinned alive, then crucified, his limbs were chopped, he was forced to eat his own flesh. Then he was beheaded; his head was placed on the tip of a spear and taken to all the cities of ash-Shaam. Then the spear was placed on one of the gates of Damascus, before eventually it was buried near a masjid that is now known as the masjid of the head.</p>
<b>The Tartars told the people that they are going to give them amnesty.</b>	<p>Toran Shah told them it was a trick and warned them that there was no guarantee that the Tartars would do as they said, but nobody listened to him. Aleppo gave itself up to the Tartars. Once the Tartars entered, Hulago issued the command to kill all the Muslims of Aleppo and spare the Christians. Toran Shah and some of the mujahideen were in the castle of Aleppo. The castle was besieged for an entire month before it fell. Hulago killed everyone else and kept Toran Shah.</p> <p>He didn't kill him.</p> <p>Then Hulago summoned the prince of Hims, al-Ashraf, and gave him Aleppo.</p> <p>Before Hulago moves south to Damascus he went northwest to Antakia, where he camped and invited all the princes of the region to discuss the new Middle East.</p>



This incident caused the people of Aleppo to lose heart and they wanted to open the gates, hoping that Hulago would not do them any harm.



<b>He issued the following commands:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hethum was to be rewarded from the loot of Aleppo as a token of appreciation;</li> <li>2. The two sultans of Salajiqah had to give back some castles to the king of Armenia;</li> <li>3. The prince of Antakia was to be given the city of Latakia as a reward for his support;</li> <li>4. A new patriarch was to lead the church in Antakia.</li> </ol>
<b>The Tartar army began moving south.</b>	<p>At that time the leaders of Hamah came to him with the keys of the city. This time, Hulago gave them real amnesty.</p> <p>The road to Damascus was now open.</p> <p>An-Nasir Yusuf met with his assistants and they all came up with one conclusion: to run away.</p> <p>Damascus was left without leaders.</p> <p>The people of Damascus agreed to do the same as people of Hamah did.</p> <p>A few people refused and decided to fight. They took shelter in the castle.</p> <p>Before Hulago entered Damascus, the news came to him that Mengku had died. Hulago went back hoping that he would be the new king of all the Mongols, instead of ruling some regions only. But when he reached Tabriz (now in Iran), he found out that the Mongols had already chosen Kubilay as the new ruler. So Hulago did not continue to Korakurm; nor did he go back to Damascus. He remained in Tabriz.</p> <p>In Damascus, Kadbugha entered flanked by two crusaders: Hetuhm, Buhmand. No Christian had entered Damascus in this way since the time of Umar (rady-Allahu 'anh).</p> <p>Damascus fell in Safar 658H, two years after the fall of Baghdad.</p> <p>Damascus now is almost ruled by Christians.</p> <p>Masjids were sprinkled with wine. The cross was moved around the city and Muslims were forced to stand when the cross passed in front of them.</p>



The next step was the occupation of Palestine.

## The occupation of Palestine

<b>Why did Katbugha occupy Palestine?</b>	<p>Katbugha decided to occupy Palestine because there was nothing to stop him from doing so. He did not attack the Christian cities that were on the coast of Lebanon and Syria.</p> <p>However, all power was in the hand of the Tartars. Even the Christians, when they wanted to expand, could not do so without authorization from the Tartars.</p>
<b>The prince of Saida</b>	<p>Julian, raided the valley of Biqā' in Lebanon and immediately received a warning from Katbugha but he ignored it and eventually Katbugha sent an army that destroyed Saida.</p>
<b>This situation helped the Muslims indirectly later when they fought the Tartars.</b>	<p>The road from Damascus to Palestine was very easy and there was no resistance worth mentioning.</p> <p>The Tartars reached 35,km from the Egyptian borders. It was clear that Egypt would be their next target.</p> <p>The Tartars were on a mission so it was obvious that they would continue through Egypt.</p> <p>The Muslims in Egypt were strong. This was a threat but it was an incentive at the same time. The Tartars wanted to eliminate all Muslim powers.</p> <p>Controlling Egypt meant controlling a strategic path between the east and the west of the known world at that time.</p>
<b>The situation in Egypt:</b>	<p>In year 658H the ruler was Qutuz.</p> <p>Before talking about Qutuz we need to talk about the group that he belonged to: the Mamluks.</p>

<p><b>The Mamluks</b></p>	<p>Mamluk literally means: owned: “something that I own”. Mamluks were people purchased from slave-markets and brought up by rich people to become helpers to them. This practice was begun by al-Ma'moun, one of the Abbasid caliphs, who purchased a large number of them and used them as a striking force in his army.</p> <p>In Egypt, however, they appeared mainly because of Najmuddin Ayub, who had ruled Egypt in 637H. He was fighting crusaders and he used Mamluks a lot to help him.</p> <p>The sultan Ayub did not deal with the Mamluks as if they were slaves. He treated them like his sons. He purchased them while they were young and worked hard on bringing them up, so when they grew up they were very loyal to him.</p> <p>When Ayub ruled Egypt he was fought by his own relatives in Damascus. The ruler there, Ismael, allied with the Crusaders against Ayub. Ismael gave almost all the cities that had been liberated by Salahuddeen to the Crusaders as a price and reward for them to help him fight his own family, namely the king Ayub.</p> <p>The king Ayub brought many Khawarizmis (who were mercenaries) to help him in the fighting, and paid them a lot of money.</p> <p>In year 642H the sultan Ayub fought Luis IX in the battle of Ghazzah. He achieved a remarkable victory by liberating al-Masjid al-Aqsa, which remained in Muslims' hands for more than 700 years until it was occupied again in the modern era by the new nation-state of Israel.</p> <p>Ayub also continued to Damascus and took control of it, so that for the first time since Salahuddeen the two regions were united again. But this did not last long because of the Khawarizmis, who were true mercenaries and turned against him because they were paid more by Ishmael and the Crusaders.</p> <p>Isamel realized that he could not depend on anyone except his own army, so he began to rely totally on his Mamluks. This gave them a lot of influence with him.</p>
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Luis IX prepared again to attack Egypt in his famous crusade no. 9. Before he did so, he contacted the the Tartars to ask them to help him, but they refused to. Yet he continued with his plan to attack Egypt.

Luis IX arrived at Dumiat in Egypt in the year 647H. At that time, Ayub was very sick and his soldiers in Dumiat thought that he was dying or dead, so they left the city and surrendered it to the Crusaders. Ayub heard about it and was very upset. He also predicted that the Crusaders would continue to occupy Cairo and thus eliminate the Ayubi state. So he decided to meet them on the way from Dumiat to Cairo. That happened in the city of Mansourah. Although he was very sick he travelled and planned the battle with his two majors of the army: Aqtai and Baibars. On 15 Sha'baan 647H the king Ayub died, one day before the battle. However, the Muslims still achieved a great victory because his wife hid the news of his death and the battle-plan was already set, so the Muslims were able to win two consecutive battles that led to the capture of Luis IX himself.

The widow of Ayub, who was called Shajarat ad-Dur ("the tree of jewels"), sent for the son of Ayub, who was in Turkey, to come and rule the country. His son, Toran Shah, arrived on 14 Dhul-Qa'dah, 10 days after the victory at Mansourah. He was the leader of the Muslims in their second battle, which took place in Muharram 648H and led to the capture of Luis IX and the defeat of the Crusaders.

However, Toran Shah was not the proper leader for Egypt at that time. He was arrogant and disrespectful to his stepmother and the leaders of the army. He accused her of hiding some of his father's funds. Shajarat ud-Dur feared that Toran Shah would destroy everything her late husband had built, so she plotted with Aqtai and Baibars to get rid of him, because they too were threatened by the new leaders who came with Toran Shah.

On 27 Muharram Toran Shah was killed, and by his death the state of the Ayubis was totally finished.

## The Mamluk state:

Within 144 years there were 29 rulers; 10 of them were killed and 12 were otherwise removed.

The killing of Toran Shah created political turmoil because there was no qualified leader from the Ayubis. People were not used to the idea of Mamluks as sultans. The Ayubis in ash-Shaam had long attempted to join Egypt to their kingdom.

Shajaratud-Dur had a broad ambition and aspiration. She had been the wife of the ruler of the country and the one who suppressed the news of his death. She was the one who plotted the murder of her late husband's son.

Muslims in Egypt were not used to having a woman ruling them, but they still gave her a chance and she was announced ruler of Egypt in Safar 648H.

Anger erupted among Muslims everywhere. Shajarat ad-Dur attempted to beautify the picture by referring to herself as the queen musta'simiyah to the caliph. But when she addressed her son Khalil she called herself the commander of the faithful. This failed to quell the outrage. The caliph himself sent a letter to the people of Egypt saying that if they had no more men then they should let him know and he would send a man to lead them.

Shajarat ad-Dur realized that she could not go on like that and would end up killed or toppled, so she decided to choose a man who would be acceptable to the people, but at the same time she could control him and thus remain in power.

She chose a man whom she thought would further her aspirations and be controlled by her because he was not strong. This man was 'Izzuddin Aybak. She married him and stepped down after 80 days of ruling in her own right. This happened in Jumada ath-Thani 648H.

When 'Izzuddin Aybak became the ruler, people calmed down somewhat, and the pledge of allegiance was taken for him from all parts of Egypt. That was the beginning of the Mamluks' era in Egypt.

Shajarat ad-dur began ruling behind the scene with the help of two strong leaders: Baibars and Aqtai.



Many historians have not done justice to this Muslim state for a variety of reasons.



Why should she not rule the country? Especially when she had the support of the military leaders?



So in less than a year four rulers had ruled Egypt.

'Izzuddin Aybak was not as weak as Shajaratuddur had anticipated. He was a smart man and decided not to clash with her when he noticed her influence. Instead, he began to strengthen his position gradually, and brought one of his strongest men, Qutuz, to aid and support him.

Four months after 'Izzuddin Aybak became the ruler; a strong challenge was waiting for him. The Ayubis in ash-Shaam were united to fight him and his people. They met on 10 Dhul-Qa'dah 648H and Aybak was able to defeat them. This made the king beloved of the people and not any more merely the husband of the queen, as the Mamluks wanted him to be.

Gradually Aybak strengthened his kingship and the animosity of the military leaders became more apparent than before. For instance, Aqtai never addressed Aybak as king or sultan or ruler; he always used his name.

In the year 651 (after 3 years) the rulers of ash-Shaam again attempted to fight Aybak, but this time the caliph in Baghdad intervened and no battle took place. That intervention gave Aybak the acknowledgement and the endorsement he needed as the king of Egypt.

Aybak noticed that the military leaders refused to leave him alone. Aqtai, the strongest military leader, was marrying a woman from the Ayubis. Aybak considered that a sign of an impending armed revolution against him and so plotted to kill Aqtai, which happened in Sha'baan 652H. Baibars was afraid that he might face the same end, so he ran away to Damascus and joined an-Nasir Yusuf (the traitor).

Shajarat uddur had failed to get what she had been hoping for; she had been waiting and scheming, but day after day her influence was decreasing instead of getting stronger. So she decided to do something she had already done before: kill the ruler! She decided to kill her husband, especially after she found out that he was intending to marry the daughter of Badruddeen Lu'lu'.

In Rabi' al-Awwal of 655H Shajaratuddur killed her husband after he had ruled for seven years.

Qutuz immediately came to the palace and arrested her. The first wife of Aybak demanded retaliation and decided to kill her co-wife in a new way.

The killing of Aybak left no one qualified in Egypt to rule except his son Ali, who was only 15 at that time, so he needed someone to supervise him; that was Qutuz. So from the year 655H Qutuz became the real ruler of Egypt.

<b>Qutuz</b>	<p>Qutuz was not his real name. His name was Mahmoud ibn Mamdoud. He was the nephew of Jalaluddeen ibn Khawarizm.</p> <p>His childhood and then his upbringing in Egypt made him a well-qualified to lead the Muslims, especially at that time.</p>
<b>Back to Egypt:</b>	<p>The killing of Aybak encouraged the princes in ash-Shaam to attack again. The ruler of Kark tried twice to do so, once in 655H, where he was defeated by Qutuz, and again in 656H, only two months after the fall of Baghdad. Again he was defeated by Qutuz.</p> <p>Qutuz was observing the situation closely. The news of the fall of Baghdad came to him. The Tartar army would eventually come to meet him, so why should he continue to rule from behind the figurehead on the throne? He decided to dethrone the young Ali. That happened on 24 Dhul-Qa'dah 657H, a few days before the arrival of Hulago in Aleppo.</p> <p>From day one, Qutuz had one goal and one goal only: to defeat the Tartars.</p> <p>His rule was not founded on thirst for power, unlike almost all the rulers of that time. His rule was for one purpose only: to defeat the Tartars.</p> <p>When Qutuz became the ruler, there were lots of problems that he had to take care of: the ambitious leaders of the Mamluks, who felt that they were more worthy of the throne than him; the financial situation, which caused prices in Egypt to rise and made living very difficult; the threat of the Crusaders and the ambitions of the Ayubis in ash-Shaam. And above all, the threat of the Tartars, which he was sure, would come soon.</p>
<b>So what did Qutuz do?</b>	<p>He began with the country's infrastructure. He met with all leaders, scholars and merchants of Egypt. Instead of eliminating threats by killing, as other rulers were wont to do, he tried to bring everyone together. He told them: "I didn't intend to become the ruler because of a worldly reason. I did that only to face the danger of the Tartars, which cannot happen without a leader. After we finish with the Tartars, you can choose whoever you want."</p>



He was captured by the Tartars in India and they are the ones who called him Qutuz, which means "ferocious dog".



He took steps to unite the Ummah and defeat the Tartars. These steps have to be studied carefully by Muslims now to learn from this great leader.

	<p>Then he took another important step, which is putting the right person in the right place according to his skills and competence. He appointed the young Aqtai to a high position because of his military abilities.</p> <p>Some leaders were unhappy with what Qutuz was doing, so Qutuz arrested those leaders and kept them away to avoid any division. He was very wise but also firm.</p>
<b>Hulago and the threat:</b>	<p>Before Hulago left his army at the gates of Damascus, he sent a letter to Qutuz warning him and demanding his allegiance.</p> <p>Qutuz gathered his leaders and told them: "You have been dependent on the treasury of the Muslims for so long." He also told them: "Who will defend Islam if you did not do it?" He was crying when he announced jihad.</p> <p>Hulago sent four messengers with his letter. Qutuz killed them all.</p> <p>Was this the proper response? No, it was not. In the classical fiqh of Islamic warfare, messengers are not generally supposed to be killed. But that was his own judgment rahimahullah.</p> <p>He placed the messengers' heads on the gates of Cairo so that everyone could see them and know that their leader is not afraid of the Tartars.</p> <p>The financial situation:</p> <p>To prepare for a war one needs a lot of money and resources. That's why in the Qur'an we see that jihad is mostly mentioned with money and self.</p> <p>Qutuz was preparing to fight the enemy. He needed manpower, and he also needed money. What did he do?</p> <p>He met with scholars and leaders and told them of his intent to impose taxes to supply the military and secure enough resources to fight the Tartars. Imam al-'Izz ibn 'Abdis-Salaam opposed these measures.</p>



Who was al-'Izz ibn 'Abdis-Salaam?



<b>al-'Izz ibn 'Abdis-Salaam:</b>	<p>He was born in Damascus in 577H. He did not seek knowledge from an early age. Yet when he began to study,, signs of his brilliance appeared quickly. He became the khatib of the biggest mosque in Damascus.</p> <p>At his time, the ruler in Damascus was Ishmael, who had allied with the Crusaders to fight his own nephew Ayub in Egypt. Therefore, the Crusaders were allowed to enter Damascus and purchase weapons from its people. Al -Izz ibn 'Abdis-Salaam issued his famous fatwa that selling weapons to the Crusaders is forbidden. Then he refused to pray for the ruler on Friday and decided to leave Damascus. For a while, he was imprisoned by Ishmael and eventually released after an interesting incident.</p> <p>He arrived in Cairo in the year 639H and was received by Ayub himself, who appointed him as the supreme judge.</p> <p>Al-'Izz ibn 'Abdis-Salaam noticed that the Mamluks, who legally were slaves, were selling and buying, which they should not do because their legal status was not that of free men. So he refused to recognise the legitimacy of their transactions, until news of the matter reached Ayub, who told him not to interfere in this, and instead issue specific fatwas and limited judgments. But Imam al-'Izz rahimahullah insisted on this and told Ayub, "Either I judge on all matters or I leave." When Al-'Izz tried to leave many people followed him, and the sultan did not like it. So eventually he agreed to allow al-'Izz to judge in all matters and asked him what should be done with the Mamluks. Al-'Izz replied that they should be sold. The sultan then asked him who would sell them? Al 'Izz said that he would do so, and put the moneys received in the treasury of the Muslims. From that time on, he became known as "the seller of kings".</p> <p>When the news came to the Mamluks they were upset and they intended to kill him. One of them knocked the door of the Imam, so the son of al 'Izz ran to his father to warn him.. His father told him: "My son, your father is too low to be killed for the sake of Allah!" Such was the humility of al-'Izz rahimahullah.</p>
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	<p>Yet he also had an awareness of the dignity of his position: at least once he addressed the sultan only by his name, Ayub, without any title or honorific, in public.</p> <p>When Baibars became the ruler of Egypt he told him: "I know you as a slave and I don't remember you as a free man," so Baibars showed him the document that proved he was free. Then al-'Izz gave him the pledge of allegiance.</p> <p>When al-'Izz rahimahullah died in the year 660H Baibars said: "Now I am a real king."</p> <p>So when Qutuz intended to impose taxes on the people al-'Izz rahimahullah refused, and issued his famous fatwa, to the effect that imposing taxes is not allowed except with two conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To prepare the army from the treasury department until there is no more money.</li> <li>2. To sell all the properties of ministers and leaders and let them have only their horses and swords.</li> </ol> <p>Once we do that and we still need money then we can impose taxes on the Muslims. We cannot impose taxes on Muslims while military leaders and ministers have fancy rides and huge properties and the public have nothing.</p> <p>Qutuz rahimahullah agreed to implement the implied demands of this fatwa. He began with his own resources. Shortly it was noticed that Egypt was very rich and that there was no need at all to impose any taxes.</p> <p>But although Qutuz needed time to prepare for battle, the Tartars did not give him any. He had to make what preparations he could to face the Tartars in a very short time.</p>
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## Before the battle:

Qutuz rahimahullah worked on many fronts to secure victory and defeat the Tartars.

The first front was iman: Ibn 'Abdis-Salaam rahimahullah and other scholars worked on the iman of the people and led them by example, reminding them of the fear Allah (ﷻ) and of piety.

The second front was a general enlistment and the announcement of jihad. For five months in 658H volunteers were trained. Most Muslims had largely forgotten the concept of jihad, so it had to be taught and instilled afresh.

The third front was the infrastructure: he appointed suitable people and forgave many of the Mamluks who were unhappy with his rule.

Finally, Qutuz realized that if he did not choose the battleground it would be imposed upon him, although it is always better to surprise one's enemy, so he decided to move with his army to Palestine.

This decision was opposed by some leaders, who told him that his land is Egypt while Palestine is not in his kingdom, but he told them that moving from Egypt had many advantages and explained his opinion, so eventually they agreed.

One problem, however, was obvious to Qutuz: 'Akka. 'Akka was a strong Christian city that had not been captured even in the time of Salahuddeen. This city was on the route that Qutuz had chosen to his battleground with Tartars, so he had to decide how to deal with the threat it posed to his forces.

Qutuz realized that fighting the crusaders would affect his plan to fight the Tartars. But he could not fight the Tartars without solving this problem because, if the Crusaders in 'Akka turned against him and attacked him from behind, he would be facing two strong armies at the same time.

Qutuz decided to find a diplomatic solution to this problem. He sent a delegation requesting a temporary truce with the Crusaders in 'Akka.

When the delegation came to 'Akka, the Crusaders liked the idea and even offered military help, but this Qutuz rejected.



They reminded people that the Tartars are human beings who could be defeated.



The war with the Tartars was temporary, while the war with Crusaders had been going on for a long time. The Crusaders had already been allied with the Tartars and helped them in Baghdad, Damascus and other areas. The recent defeats to Crusaders in al-Mansourah and sarafcore.

### Analyzing the truce:

### Was this the best course for Qutuz to have taken in that situation?

A truce implies recognition of occupation of Muslim land, so Qutuz insisted on making it temporary.

Also, Qutuz warned the Crusaders that if they thought of treason he would turn against them and crush their city. The Crusaders had already suffered two defeats from Qutuz, so they were not likely to think of doing that.

On the other hand, Qutuz gave the Crusaders an incentive to honour the truce by promising them low prices on the Tartars' horses and slaves whenever they were captured. Qutuz stipulated that the Crusaders in 'Akka would supply his army with food and other necessities while he was in Palestine, and they agreed to that. By this arrangement Qutuz secured a safe route to the battleground he had chosen.

After Qutuz made his final preparations, he moved with his army from Egypt. That was in Sha'baan 658H (July 1260 CE).

Qutuz appointed his strongest leaders to the front, among them Baibars. He commanded him to move forward with his group ahead of the entire army.

Qutuz wanted Baibars to achieve marginal victories before they met the entire army of Tartars. The Tartars had several groups but their army was stationed behind.

Baibars faced the first group of Tartars and defeated them in Ghazzah. The news came to Katbugha, who was 300 km away in Lebanon. This victory was very important because it achieved exactly what Qutuz had anticipated.

The army then moved north, crossing Yafa, Tulkarem and reaching 'Akka. Qutuz and his army were camping on the outskirts of 'Akka to ensure that his truce with the Crusaders was effective and they were not reneging.

One of Qutuz' leaders suggested attacking the weakened city and liberating the Muslims there after 166 years of occupation, but Qutuz told him: "We do not break our word."

Qutuz chose the battleground carefully in the valley of 'Ain Jalut, 65 km south of Hitteen, where another famous battle had taken place in 583H. It was also about 60 km west of the location of the great battle of al-Yarmuk more than 600 years ago. This brought back memories of victory to the Muslims.



"Muslims cannot make permanent truce with the enemy."



Qutuz also wanted the Tartars to think that these groups were the entire Muslim army, while in fact they were only one part of the army.

	<p>Qutuz kept his army hidden as planned and exposed the front only under the leadership of Baibars. They were there on 24 Ramadan 658H.</p> <p>A few months before, Qutuz had offered unity with ash-Shaam and sent a letter to an-Nasir Yusuf telling him that he is his deputy in Egypt and Yusuf is the king. But Yusuf rejected that offer and chose betrayal of the Muslims. Yet when Tartars came he ran away to Palestine until he was captured with his son and sent to Hulago.</p> <p>Qutuz also requested help from the ruler of Karak, but the latter decided to remain neutral.</p> <p>Al Ashraf, the ruler of Hims, not only refused to help Qutuz but even was with the Tartar army.</p> <p>The only one who helped Qutuz was the ruler of Hamah.</p> <p>While Qutuz rahimahullah was preparing his army, many volunteers came from Palestine to join him.</p> <p>Part of the answer is that they did not have a good example, a role model, to follow.</p> <p>There are lots of Muslims who have good intentions but there is no one to motivate them.</p>
<b>Division in the Tartar army:</b>	<p>A messenger comes to Qutuz with a letter from one of the leaders in the Tartar army. That message was from Sarimuddin Aybak, who had been captured by Hulago during his invasion of ash-Shaam and then served in his army for several battles.</p> <p>One day before the battle the message came that he is going to attack the army of the Tartars from inside.</p> <p>That message also included very important information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The army is no longer as strong as when it attacked ash-Shaam because Hulago took a lot of goods and gear with him.</li> <li>2. The right flank of the Tartar army is stronger than its left, so you should strengthen your left, which is facing the right of the Tartar army.</li> <li>3. The ruler of Hims with Sarimuddin Aybak will join the Tartar army but only to fight them from within.</li> </ol>



Where had they been before when a group of Tartars occupied Palestine?

### The battle of 'Ayn Jalut:

The Tartar army came from the north, covering the entire valley of 'Ayn Jalut, which was exactly where Qutuz wanted to meet them. Then the Muslim army came. Only one group of it divided into many divisions, with red clothes covered with white. When Katbugha saw that he was terrified, asking Sarim: whose group is this? Each time, Sarim would answer him with exaggeration. This was the first time the Tartars had seen the Muslims advancing upon them instead of being surrounded and attacked from all sides.

Then drums began playing. Qutuz had certain codes for attack, withdrawal and other manoeuvres of the army.

Although the army of Tartars was much larger than the Muslim army, yet they were terrified. They had thought that Baibars's group was the entire army, while in reality Qutuz was hiding with the rest of the army in the hills, watching the first round closely.

Katbugha wanted to finish off the battle quickly when he noticed that his army is much bigger than the army of the Muslims, so he entered the valley with his entire army, and that was the mistake that led to the defeat of the Tartars, exactly as Qutuz had intended and planned.

Katbugha launched his full-fledged attack against the strongest group of the Muslim army. Baibars held his ground and showed remarkable courage.

Qutuz was watching; minutes became days and months for him but he had to wait. That was his plan.

Then the second part of the plan came into action: drawing the entire army of Katbugha to the valley. Baibars pretended to be retreating, and so pulled the Tartars after him.

The withdrawal was not quick because the Muslims did not want Katbugha to feel that he was being trapped.

Then the third and last part of the plan came into action: the descent of the Muslim army from the hills.

	<p>Qutuz was watching how Muslims were descending and fighting the Tartars. He also saw how the right flank of the Tartar army was indeed strong and that the Muslims were struggling there. He ordered reinforcements to join that side, but that was not quite enough.</p> <p>He had one option left. He went down himself, throwing his helmet to the ground in thirst for martyrdom and screaming: "O Islam!"</p> <p>His soldiers were shocked to see their leader among them, struggling with them and fighting alongside them. This gave them the encouragement they needed. One of the Tartars saw Qutuz and aimed his arrow to hit him but hit his horse instead. He did not run. Instead, he kept fighting. One of his soldiers offered him his horse but he refused and told him "Don't deprive the Muslims of your efforts!" He went on fighting on foot until they brought him a back-up horse.</p>
<b>The killing of Katbugha:</b>	<p>Jamaluddin Aqush, one of the Mamluks of Yusuf who had left him and joined the Muslims in this battle, reached Katubugha and killed him.</p> <p>Once the Tartars saw the head of their leader between their feet, they started running, trying to open a path on the northern side of the valley to run away, but the Muslims were closing in on them.</p> <p>Eventually the Tartars were able to run, but the Muslims followed them and the Tartars realized that they could not escape, so they had to regroup and face them.</p> <p>20 km north of 'Ayn Jalut, at the city of Bisan, they met again.</p> <p>This was a fierce battle because the Tartars had nothing to lose. Qutuz saw the difficulty of the situation and again participated in the fighting, repeating aloud: "O Islam." He also prayed: "O Allah, give victory to your slave!"</p> <p>He was invoking Allah saying: "I'm your slave", not "I'm the king."</p> <p>So Allah granted him victory. The entire army of Tartars was killed, every single one.</p>

## Liberating Damascus

**Qutuz (rahimah-Allah) decided to move north to Damascus (about 150 km) because there are still Tartars there.**

He wanted first to send the good news of the victory in 'Ayn Jalut. News came to Damascus two days before the 'Eid. The Muslims were very happy, their self-esteem was high and so they attacked the Tartars who were in charge of Damascus and killed them. Then they turned against the Christians who had abused Muslims in Damascus.

On 30 Ramadan, Qutuz entered Damascus and was very well received.

Qutuz (rahimahu-Allah) dismissed the judge Ibn-Azzaki, who had been appointed by the Tartars, and appointed Abu-Bakr ibn Sadriddeen.

The next day, the day of 'Eid, was the best day for Muslims in 40 years. It was a celebration of victory.

Qutuz (rahimahu-Allah) sent Baibars following the escaping soldiers of the Tartars and cleansing the remaining cities of ash-Shaam, so they reached Hims and attacked the camps of the Tartars there. They liberated Muslim captives. Then they moved to Aleppo and within few weeks the entire region of ash-Shaam had been liberated.

Then Qutuz (rahimahu-Allah) declared unity again between ash-Shaam and Egypt. This was the first time they had been together since 648H.

Qutuz (rahimahu-Allah) gave back some cities to the Ayubis. He gave back the region of Hims to al-Ashraf al-Ayubi after he repented from allying himself with the Tartars.

On the 26th of Shawwaal (one month after the battle) Qutuz decided to go back to Cairo because some things had to be resolved. By now his kingdom stretched from Libya to the Euphrates. All this had happened within eleven months.



<p><b>The consequences of 'Ayn Jalut:</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Destruction of the myth that the Tartars could not be defeated;</li> <li>2. The birth of the state of the Mamluks;</li> <li>3. The return of Jihad;</li> <li>4. The disappearance of the Tartars from this region;</li> <li>5. The liberation of Muslim cities from the Crusaders in Palestine and Lebanon. In the year 664 the liberation of Haifa; in 665 Safad; in 666 Yafa; in 667 Antakya, which had been occupied in 491.</li> <li>6. The conversion of many Tartars to Islam.</li> </ol>
<p><b>In the year 650</b></p>	<p>one of Hulago's cousins, Baraka, accepted Islam. He was the brother of Batu.</p> <p>He headed the "golden horde". This change led to many divisions and internal battles among the Tartars.</p> <p>Baraka was appalled by the fall of the Abbasid state at the hands of Hulago, who considered it a military expedition.</p> <p>Barakah supported Arik Buqa as a great khan, while Hulago supported Kublai. Eventually Kublai became the great khan. That made Barakah remove the name of the great khan from the coinage, which lead to the isolation of</p> <p>Also, Barakah and Hulago had disagreements over jurisdictions.</p> <p>All that led to wars between the two groups.</p> <p>The term "Kamikaze" means "divine wind" in Japanese.</p>
<p><b>How can we Muslims become victorious again?</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We must return to the book of Allah and the Sunnah of the Prophet (saw) in ALL matters;</li> <li>2. We must return to Jihad;</li> <li>3. We must appoint suitable people to positions of authority and leadership;</li> <li>4. We must establish unity and brotherhood;</li> <li>5. We must give up taking disbelievers as allies and friends;</li> <li>6. We must make decisions by shura (consultation).</li> </ol>

<b>The death of Qutuz:</b>	<p>On the way back to Cairo Qutuz (rahimahu-Allah) was killed by Mamluk leaders. The ringleader was Baibars, who became the ruler after Qutuz.</p> <p>Imam al-'Izz ibn 'Abdis-Salaam (rahimahu-Allah) was saddened by the loss of Qutuz and said that no one after Umar ibn 'Abdil-'Aziz was just like him except Qutuz.</p> <p>Baibars was given the pledge of allegiance on 16 Dhul-Qa'dah 658H.</p> <p>Imam al 'Izz ibn 'Abdis-Salaam asked Baibars whether he was still a slave. So Baibars had to show him a document testifying that he had been freed.</p> <p>The news of the killing of Qutuz reached Damascus so the ruler there Sanjar refused to give the pledge to Baibars, so Baibars had to fight him. That happened on 16Safar 659H.</p>
<b>The re-establishment of the caliphate:</b>	<p>Baibars wanted to re-establish the caliphate, which would give him more legitimacy and endorse his rule, so he invited the survivors of Banu-'Abbas to Cairo.</p> <p>On 13 Rajab 659H, after about 3 years and half, the caliphate was revived.</p> <p>The killing of the caliphate:</p> <p>On 3 Muharram 660H the caliph was killed. So Baibars decided to select a caliph but keep him in Egypt.</p> <p>On 27 Rabi' al-Akhir 660H the pledge of allegiance was given to another caliph, but this time it was decided that he should be kept in Cairo.</p>

## The golden horde

<b>It was called so after the tent of Batu.</b>	He was the leader of that group of Mongols who were stationed in Europe.
<b>During the reign of Okeital,</b>	<p>Three military generals were under the leadership of Batu:</p> <p>Guyuk, Mengku and Baidar.</p> <p>Guyuk became the great khan after the death of his father. This was the beginning of the rift between Batu and the other Mongols.</p> <p>Guyuk was very sympathetic with Christians while Batu was sympathetic with Muslims because his father had married the sister of Jalaluddin ibn Khawarizm.</p> <p>This religious difference created a division that almost resulted in war between the great khan and Batu. But Guyuk died before the war occurred. Batu, with the help of his brother Berke, worked hard to appoint a great khan who would listen to them and eventually were able to do so by electing Mengku as great khan.</p> <p>In the year 650H Batu passed away and his son succeeded him. But his son was young and Berke became the leader of the tribe in the year 653H.</p> <p>Berke khan was the first official Mongol leader to embrace Islam publicly after his return from Karakorum in the year 650H.</p> <p>Berke khan founded the city of Saray (Saratov) in Russia and made it one of the largest cities in the world.</p> <p>When Hulago initially intended to attack Baghdad, Batu opposed him and Hulago had to comply. But once Batu died Hulago went on with his plan and invaded Baghdad.</p>

	<p>Berke was a Muslim when the invasion of Baghdad happened. He couldn't stop it because his soldiers were not Muslims and wouldn't fight another Mongol leader for no reason. So all Berke could do was wait for a reason to fight Hulago.</p> <p>Berke sent messages to Hulago that his soldiers had taken the cities of Tebriz and Maraghah and that he should give them back to him because they were under his jurisdiction.</p> <p>Also, Berke requested from Hulago one third of the spoils of war, as this was the tradition during the time of Batu, but Hulago was enraged and killed Berke's messengers. This was the beginning of the real war within the Mongols.</p> <p>Hulago marched with an army to fight Berke. They met in the year 660H and Hulago was defeated.</p> <p>Hulago waged another war in the same year and this time he was victorious.</p> <p>In the past two wars neither Hulago nor Berke had participated in the fighting. Next year, Hulago sent his son to support his victorious army and eradicate the revolution of Berke and his group, but this time Berke himself went to face Hulago's son. The battle took place in 661H and the army of Hulago's son was defeated badly.</p> <p>During that time there was correspondence between Berke and Baibars. Baibars was reminding Berke that Islam command sits followers to help each other even against their own people, and indeed Berke complied with this.</p> <p>Hulago could not bear these defeats from his own people and died of epilepsy in 663H.</p> <p>Berke died soon after Hulago but wars between their successors continued until 680H, when they were finally able to sign a truce.</p> <p>Rulers after Berke were not Muslims until Tadan Mengku, who accepted Islam after correspondence with the Sultan Qalawoun. In 686H Tadan Mengku willingly stepped down to dedicate himself to attending the gatherings of knowledge and worshipping Allah. His nephew Talabgha succeeded him as a leader of the northern Mongols.</p>
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## The second Tartar invasion

<p><b>The internal division of the Mongols resulted in granting obedient leaders to the great khan the title Ilkhan.</b></p>	<p>This title was first given to Hulago and his group because they were the ones supporting the great khan Kublai.</p> <p>In 680H one of Hulago's sons accepted Islam and named himself Ahmad.</p> <p>He corresponded with Qalawoun, the sultan of Mamluks, asking him for a peace treaty and forgetting the past. However, the son of Hulago couldn't give up his arrogance and supremacy over the Mamluks, so this correspondence didn't produce any real effect. Ahmad didn't force any of his followers to accept Islam and he was killed by his own people in the 683H.</p> <p>In the year 693H Qazan became the ruler of the Ilkhans and accepted Islam the next year. He became known as Mahmoud. He officially adopted Islam as the religion of the state in Persia. But that following was not complete. His ultimate reference was the teachings of Genghis khan and the book he had collected, namely al-Yasaq. So scholars issued the fatwa that he was not a Muslim.</p> <p>Qazan decided to invade ash-Shaam again after the deputy in Damascus went to him encouraging him to do so.</p> <p>Mongols had never stopped attacking Muslims after the battle of Ayn Jalut but they could not win any decisive battle.</p>
<p><b>This time, however, there were many reasons for Mongols to invade the entire region of ash-Shaam:</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The age of the new sultan: Muhammad ibn Qalawoun;</li> <li>2. The internal divisions among Muslims;</li> <li>3. The treason of some Muslim leaders.</li> </ol>

<p><b>On 27 Rabi' al-Awal 699H (23 Dec.1299)</b></p>	<p>A battle took place near Hims. It was called the battle of Hims III or the battle of Wadi al-Khazandar.</p> <p>The Muslims lost in this battle because they were not well-prepared. Their army was smaller than the Tartar army and they were not united.</p> <p>The Sultan returned to Egypt with the caliph and the Muslims were left to face the Tartars.</p>
<p><b>The role of Shaikh al-Islam Imam Ibn-Taymiyah (rahimahu-Allah):</b></p>	<p>Then news came that Qazan would be entering Damascus, so its people were terrified and ran away from it. Imam Ibn-Taymiyah went with some scholars to meet with Qazan before entering Damascus. He spoke with him strongly, reminding him of what Islam truly is, and demanded that he give the people of Damascus security, so Qazan did so.</p> <p>When Qazan entered Damascus he declared Qabjak (the traitor who had encouraged him to invade the region) as his deputy in Damascus, Aleppo and Hims.</p> <p>A group of mujahideen took shelter in the castle of Damascus before Qazan arrived, and refused to give him the castle. Qabjak tried to persuade them to turn it in, but they refused. Imam Ibn-Taymiyah (rahimahu-Allah) supported them and told them not to surrender the castle.</p> <p>Qazan went back to Persia and said that he was coming back to take Egypt.</p> <p>The sultan went back to Egypt, preparing himself and his people to avenge the defeat.</p> <p>The preparations that began were similar to the preparations that took place before Ayn Jalut:</p> <p>Once news came to Qazan that Muslims are preparing themselves to fight him he decided to come back and fight them again.</p> <p>Qazan in the meantime sent a delegation to the Sultan asking him for a truce. This was not a real request but it was a maneuver to determine the preparation of the people in Egypt.</p> <p>People in Damascus were terrified again and wanted to run away, but Imam Ibn-Taymiyah issued a fatwa prohibiting the people from leaving their place. He also encouraged people to learn fighting and archery.</p>

<b>The battle of Marj as-Sufr (Shaqhab):</b>	<p>On 2 Ramadan 702H (April 20 1303 CE) the two armies met again south of Damascus. This time the Muslims were victorious.</p> <p>Imam Ibn-Taymiyah encouraged people to fight, promising them victory if they did so, and told them to break their fast, so they did.</p> <p>When the Sultan came from Egypt he met with him and asked him to join their army but Ibn-Taymiyah told him that the Sunnah is to fight under the flag of one's own people.</p> <p>This victory put an end to the ambitions of the Tartars to expand, and it was so difficult for Qazan to bear that he died one year after this defeat.</p>
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## The third Tartar campaign

<b>After the death of Qazan, his brother became the ruler.</b>	<p>He also accepted Islam and called himself Muhammad ibn Aragon. He began the reconciliation with the Mamluks and requested a real truce and to forget what had happened in the past. The sultan agreed and things were going well.</p> <p>However, in less than a year a dangerous transformation took place: this leader became a strong Shi'ite because he was influenced by one of the Shi'ite scholars "Ibn Al Mutahir Al Hilli". So he dropped the names of Abu-Bakr and Umar (radi-Allahu anhum). He acknowledged only Ali as the caliph. He then asked Christians to help him against the Mamluks. He attacked ash-shaam unsuccessfully in 712H.</p>
<b>Timurlank:</b>	<p>This man had a limp because one day he was stealing from a shepherd who shot an arrow at him and hit his leg. He had a group of 40 robbers.</p> <p>In the year 766H he attacked the ruler of Ilkhans and defeated him after he used to be his deputy.</p> <p>In the year 771H a man named Taimur entered Samarqand, declaring himself the ruler and claiming that he was descended from Oketi, the son of Genghiz khan.</p> <p>In 794H he attacked Afghanistan and Iran for five years until eventually he quelled all revolutions there.</p>
<b>A new development in the Muslim world:</b>	<p>In 699H a new family took control in Turkey: the family of Othman ibn Artughl. This family was to establish one of the largest and longest-living Islamic states in the world. It ruled from 699H to 1324H (1299 – 1924 CE).</p> <p>Taimur intended to attack Asham also but when he heard that the Mamluk sultan has come with a large army from Egypt he retreated. He instead moved north and occupied Moscow in one year.</p> <p>When he heard that the sultan of India had died, leaving no son to succeed him, he moved there and occupied India in 801H.</p> <p>He returned to Samarqand with 70 elephants carrying stones and marbles to build a masjid.</p>



	<p>His claim was that rulers there are lenient with Hindus.</p> <p>The news came soon that the sultan of the Mamluks had died, so he immediately prepared an army to fight Muslims in Iraq, Persia and ash-Shaam.</p> <p>From 802H to 807H he led an expedition in Persia and Iraq to punish the ruler there, who had allied himself with the Ottomans.</p> <p>On his way, he invaded Armenia and Azerbaijan. In one instance, he buried 3000 people in a tunnel and covered it with sand.</p> <p>He moved to Aleppo, killed 20,000 people and captured about 300,000 because people in Egypt were busy with their own affairs and refused to help the people of ash-Shaam.</p> <p>He reached Damascus and captured it after a long siege. He burnt the city for three days and left after 80 days.</p> <p>He moved east, entered Baghdad and commanded his soldiers to bring him two heads each. So about 100,000 people were killed.</p> <p>In 804H he fought the Ottoman army under Bayazid. They met on 19 Dhul-Hijjah 804H (20 July 1402 CE). Taimur was victorious; so much so that he captured the sultan and his son and occupied the capital of the Ottomans.</p> <p>In the year 807H he decided to invade China. It was cold and his doctors advised him to wait, but he refused to listen and so died on 17 Sha'baan 807H (February. 181405 AD). He was buried in Samarqand.</p>
<b>Who was Taimurlank?</b>	<p>His army used to carry a wooden masjid for him so that he wouldn't miss the prayer in congregation.</p> <p>He built minarets of skulls.</p> <p>His wars were against Muslims, with the exception of China and Russia.</p> <p>He forced captured women to serve his guests naked in front of their husbands.</p> <p>He encouraged the memorization of the Qur'an and awarded prizes to the winners.</p> <p>He buried some of his Muslim captives alive.</p>

## The conclusion

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How do we see the Mongol story?